

REORGANIZATION OF THE MILITIA OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

[To accompany Bill H. R. No. 860.]

Mr. PENDLETON, from the Committee on Military Affairs, made the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the letter of the Secretary of War, communicating "A report of army and militia officers on the subject of reorganizing the militia of the District of Columbia," submit the following report:

Your committee have fully considered the subject-matter of the said letter and accompanying papers, and are of opinion that the proposed reorganization is eminently expedient and ought to be made without delay. The importance of a well-ordered and efficient body of citizen soldiery at the national seat of government can scarcely be overrated, and, it is supposed, will command the assent of all who give to the subject any consideration. The particular plan and details best calculated to secure the desired end can in no other way be so satisfactorily determined as by the deliberate examination of the whole subject by a board of experienced officers of the regular army and of the local militia and volunteers—the course adopted in the present instance. The board was organized under special orders of the War Department, dated October 5, 1858, and made its report on the 2d of April, 1860. This report has been communicated to the House, and may be found in Ex. Doc. No. 89, 1st session 36th Congress. The results of this minute and protracted examination have been embodied by the board in a bill which meets the approval of your committee, and which they herewith report, recommending that the same be enacted into a law.

